(b) whether different factions of Akali Dal and the militants are likely to participate in the proposed elections;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such organisations/persons as are openly demanding a right to secede from the country; and

(d) whether the Government propose to hold talks with them for a peaceful settlement of the Punjab problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) A series of steps have been initiated to create conditions in Punjab for a free and fair poll. These include deployment of Army and paramilitary forces to check infiltration of terrorists and smuggling of arms from across the border, provide assistance to the civil authorities give a sense of security to all the people and remove the fear of coersion and intimidation.

(b) It would be for the political parties to decide about their participation in the elections. It is, however hoped that all democratically oriented will participate.

(c) Information is being collected from the state Government and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The Government believes in finding an amicable solution to all the problems through peaceful means, dialogue and discussions.

Bodo Problem

***148. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether army had to be deployed recently in the Bodo dominated areas of Assam to counter the situation arising out of Bodo militancy;

(b) if so, the total number of casualties due to Bodo violence and the action taken by the army;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to take steps to find a negotiated settlement of the Bodo issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the factors that have contributed to the Bodo problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME ARRAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bodo violence has resulted in 76 casualties from 1st January, 1991 till 28.11.1991. six persons have been arrested in army action.

(c) and (d). The Union Government have appointed a Three-Member Expert Committee which has been requested to submit its report by 31.1.1992.

(e) Perceived grievances of the Bodos include disparity in development, suppression of their language and culture, alienation of their land, inadequate representation in public services, and a feeling of non-participation in the management of their affairs.

Shortage of Power

***149. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state.**

(a) the estimated shortage of power at present in the country; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-

VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) During the period April, 1991 - October, 1991, the energy deficit in the country was of the order of 8.0%.

(b) Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

Capacity of A.I.R. Station, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)

*150. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of the All India Radio Station at Aurangabad, Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to raise the same;

(c) if so, the time by which the task is likely to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) In addition to the 1 KW MW Transmitter and Type II Studios in Aurangabad, the 20 KW MW transmitter at Jalgaon, 100 KW MW transmitter at Pune and 10 KW MW transmitter at Parbhani provide radio coverage in the district.

(b) and (c). There is no approved scheme at present to raise the capacity of the All India Radio Station at Aurangabad.

(d) From coverage point of view, Aurangabad district is very well served by the MW regional transmitters.

Film Censorship Regulations

*151. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had made some amendments to strengthen the film censorship regulations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). For certifying films for public exhibition, the Central Government have enacted the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952) which superseded the earlier legislation on the subject. A statutory body called the Central Board of Film Certification has been set up for the purpose. The Act has been amended from time to time to strengthen the censorship machinery. The major amendments to the Act were made in 1981 and 1984. The important changes incorporated in these Amendment Acts are indicated in the attached Statement-I

Under Section 8 of the Act, the Central Government have framed rules called the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the Act. These Rules have superseded the earlier Rules on the subject.

Section 5B of the Act empowers the Central Government to issue directions to the Central Board of Film Certification setting out the principles for determining the suitability of films "public exhibition". The existing directions were issued on 7.1.78 in supersession of the earlier Guidelines.